

DC Students' Reading and Math Scores Rise in 2009



Adrian Fenty, Mayor • Kerri Briggs, Acting State Superintendent

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"I'm excited to announce math and reading scores have gone up across the board in both DCPS and charter schools. These impressive, significant gains for a second straight year are the result of hard work by many people. The scores signify a trend -- a trend toward an excellent education for all DC students."

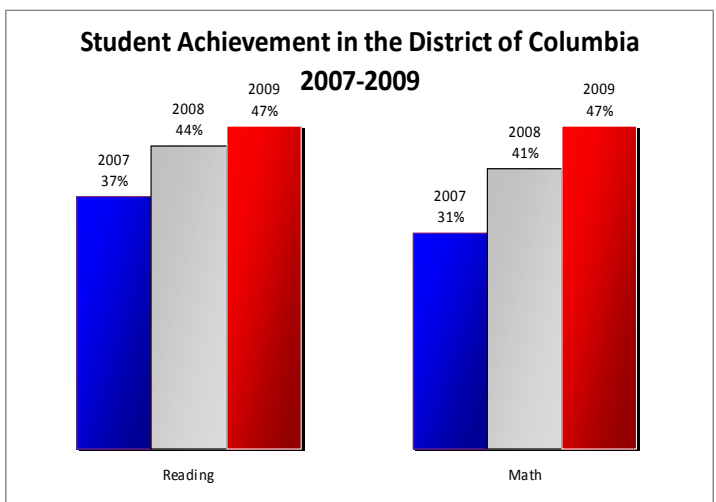
-Dr. Kerri Briggs, Acting State Superintendent

The preliminary results of the 2009 DC Comprehensive Assessment System (CAS) show continued progress in student achievement. Overall, reading scores are up 3 points and math scores are up 6 points over 2008. Reading and math scores went up in both elementary and secondary schools and across DC Public Schools (DCPS) and public charter schools (PCS).

DC CAS is the annual testing measure used by the District of Columbia to determine student proficiency in reading and math. The scores are from the 2008-2009 DC Comprehensive Assessment System tests given in the Spring of 2009. OSSE issued testing security guidelines and monitored testing in the schools.

Real impact

- **Over 800 more students** are performing at or above proficiency in reading than in 2008.
- **Over 1600 more students** are performing at or above proficiency in math than in 2008.



Overall Results

READING

	2008 Elementary	2009 Elementary	Change	2008 Secondary	2009 Secondary	Change
DCPS	45.6%	49.4%	+3.8	39.3%	40.5%	+1.2
All PCS	45.2%	45.9%	+0.7	46.9%	53.2%	+6.3
State	45.5%	48.4%	+2.9	42.2%	45.8%	+3.6

MATH

	2008 Elementary	2009 Elementary	Change	2008 Secondary	2009 Secondary	Change
DCPS	40.5%	48.6%	+8.1	36.5%	40.1%	+3.6
All PCS	41.8%	42.4%	+0.6	48.1%	56.6%	+8.6
State	40.7%	46.5%	+5.8	41.0%	46.9%	+5.9

Success across grade levels

- Students in all grade levels showed increases in math; students in almost every grade level showed increases in reading.
- Public charter schools made impressive gains with 10th grade students, compared with 10th grade students from last year – up 9 points in reading and 14 points in math.

- DC Public Schools made significant gains with 6th grade students in reading, compared with 6th grade students last year – up 10 points. DCPS also increased student achievement by 10 points in 7th grade math.

Closing the achievement gap

- Across the District, the achievement gap between black and white students closed by almost 6 points in math and 3 points in reading.
- Public charter secondary schools closed the black-white achievement gap by 7 points in reading and 9 points in math.
- English Language Learners in DCPS showed particularly large gains – 11 points in math; 6 points in reading.
- Asian students in charter schools showed particularly large gains – 16 points in math; 8 points in reading.

Growth in majority of schools

Of the 190 schools in the District:

- 114 schools saw an increase in math scores
 - **54 schools saw an increase** in math scores of **10 points or more**
- 101 schools saw an increase in reading scores
 - **37 schools saw an increase** in reading scores of **10 points or more**

Improvement is spread across the city

- Ron Brown Middle School in Ward 7 saw a gain of 10 points in math and 2 points in reading.
- Young America Works Public Charter School in Ward 4 saw a gain of 8 points in math and 10 points in reading.
- Hope Community Public Charter School – Tolson Campus in Ward 5 saw a gain of 7 points in math and 8 points in reading.
- Leckie Elementary in Ward 8 saw a gain of 16 points in math and 11 points in reading.

School status and AYP

AYP determinations are based on more than just test scores. Indicators like attendance, graduation rate and participation rate are included. Despite the increases in student achievement, school accountability measures were mixed.

- A higher percentage of schools are in good standing this year (not in need of improvement) +1.4%.
- In 2009, 34 DCPS schools made AYP (out of 128 total) or 27% (*Preliminary*)
 - In 2008, 45 DCPS schools made AYP (out of 143 total) or 31%
- In 2009, 13 Public Charter schools made AYP (out of 73 total) or 18% (*Preliminary*)
 - In 2008, 18 Public Charter schools made AYP (out of 58 total) or 31%

Additional information and timeline

- These are preliminary results.
- Schools and districts will have the opportunity to review the results and reconcile any disputed data.
- Final results will be available to the general public on OSSE's Web site <http://osse.dc.gov> after all results have been reconciled.